

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A pistol with firing pin locking mechanism comprising:
2 a housing defining a chamber to hold a cartridge;
3 a firing pin disposed in the housing and movable to strike a chambered
4 cartridge;
5 a blocking member that engages and prevents the firing pin from moving to
6 strike the cartridge; and
7 a stopping member operable to maintain the blocking member into engagement
8 with the firing pin.

1 2. The pistol of claim 1, wherein the blocking member is movable from a
2 first position in which the blocking member engages the firing pin to a second position in
3 which the blocking member does not engage the firing pin, the stopping member operable to
4 engage and prevent blocking member movement from the first position to second position.

1 3. The pistol of claim 2, wherein the stopping member is selectively
2 movable by a user of the pistol into and out of engagement with the blocking member.

1 4. The pistol of claim 3, further comprising a movable selector switch
2 connected to the stopping member that allows the pistol user to manually move the stopping
3 member into and out of engagement with the blocking member.

1 5. The pistol of claim 3, wherein the blocking member is vertically
2 movable and further comprises a top surface, and the stopping member further comprises a
3 bottom surface, the bottom surface of the stopping member movable to engage the top surface
4 of the blocking member when the blocking member is in the first position to prevent vertical
5 movement of the blocking member.

1 6. The pistol of claim 2, further comprising a biasing member to bias the
2 blocking member into the first position engaging the firing pin.

1 7. The pistol of claim 5, wherein the blocking member further comprises a
2 vertically-oriented shaft with a laterally-protruding flange, the flange movable into and out of
3 engagement with a top surface of firing pin.

1 8. The pistol of claim 7, wherein the flange further comprises a vertical
2 surface that is engageable with a protrusion extending vertically upwardly from the top surface
3 of the firing pin to prevent forward movement of firing pin.

1 9. The pistol of claim 1, further comprising a rotatable locking member
2 operably associated with the stopping member, the locking member rotationally movable from
3 an unlocked position to a locked position in which the stopping member is locked into
4 engagement with the blocking member.

1 10. A pistol with firing pin locking mechanism comprising:
2 a housing defining a longitudinal axis and a chamber to hold a cartridge;
3 a firing pin disposed in the housing and movable in a forward longitudinal
4 direction to strike the cartridge;
5 a blocking member engageable with the firing pin and movable between a first
6 vertical position in which the blocking member prevents forward movement of the
7 firing pin and a second vertical position in which the blocking member does not prevent
8 forward movement of the firing pin to allow the firing pin to strike the cartridge; and
9 a stopping member that is selectively movable by a user of the pistol into an
10 activated position in which the stopping member engages the blocking member so that
11 the blocking member cannot be moved vertically from the first position.

1 11. The pistol of claim 10, wherein the stopping member is positioned
2 above the blocking member in the activated position to obstruct possible vertical movement of
3 the blocking member from the first position.

1 12. The pistol of claim 11, wherein the stopping member is movable into a
2 second position by the user of the pistol in which the stopping member is withdrawn from
3 above the blocking member and does not obstruct the vertical movement of the blocking
4 member from the first position.

1 13. The pistol of claim 11, wherein the stopping member is interspersed
2 between blocking member and the housing when the stopping member is in the activated
3 position engaged with the blocking member.

1 14. The pistol of claim 12, wherein the stopping member is a strut movable
2 in a longitudinal direction between the activated and deactivated positions.

1 15. The pistol of claim 14, wherein the blocking member further comprises a
2 vertically-oriented shaft with a laterally-protruding flange attached thereto that engages the
3 firing pin, the strut obstructing vertical movement of the flange from engagement with the
4 firing pin.

1 16. The pistol of claim 10, wherein the housing is a reciprocating slide
2 slidably mounted a frame.

1 17. A pistol with firing pin locking mechanism comprising:
2 a housing defining a longitudinal axis and a chamber to hold a cartridge;
3 a firing pin disposed in the housing and longitudinally movable in a forward
4 direction to contact the cartridge;
5 a blocking member movable into and out of engagement with the firing pin, the
6 firing pin blocked from forward movement when engaged by the blocking member;
7 a stopping member selectively movable from an inactivated first position to a
8 second activated position in which the stopping member engages and prevents the
9 blocking member from being disengaged from the firing pin; and
10 a first manually movable selector switch connected to the stopping member and
11 controlling movement of the stopping member between the first and second positions.

1 18. The pistol of claim 17, wherein the switch is rotatably mounted in the
2 housing and movable in a rotational direction to control the position of the stopping member.

1 19. The pistol of claim 18, wherein the stopping member is pivotally
2 connected to the switch and axially movable in a longitudinal direction by rotating the switch.

1 20. The pistol of claim 19, wherein the switch further comprises a tenon pin
2 on which the stopping member is pivotally mounted.

1 21. The pistol of claim 17, wherein the switch is a thumb-lever.

1 22. The pistol of claim 19, further comprising a second selector switch
2 rotatably mounted in the housing and mechanically coupled to the first switch such that turning
3 one of the switches concomitantly turns the other switch in the same rotational direction, the
4 stopping member being movable in position by turning either the first switch or second switch.

1 23. A pistol with firing pin locking mechanism comprising:
2 a housing defining a longitudinal axis and a chamber to hold a cartridge;
3 a firing pin disposed in the housing and movable in a forward longitudinal
4 direction to strike the cartridge;
5 a blocking member movable into and out of engagement with the firing pin, the
6 firing pin blocked from forward movement when engaged by the blocking member to
7 prevent the firing pin from striking the cartridge;
8 a stopping member that is selectively movable from an inactivated first position
9 to a second activated position in which the stopping member prevents the blocking
10 member from being disengaged from the firing pin;
11 a movable selector switch connected to the stopping member and controlling
12 movement of the stopping member between the first and second positions; and
13 a movable locking member that engages and locks the selector switch in at least
14 one position in which the stopping member simultaneously is in the second activated
15 position.

1 24. The pistol of claim 23, wherein the locking member is a lock pin
2 rotatably mounted to the selector switch and configured to receive a cooperatively configured
3 key used to turn the locking member.

1 25. The pistol of claim 24, wherein the lock pin includes a cylindrical
2 external sidewall to engage a mating concavity formed in the selector switch which stoppingly
3 receives the lock pin sidewall to lock the switch in position.

1 26. A pistol with firing pin locking mechanism comprising:
2 a frame;
3 a housing attached to the frame, the housing defining a longitudinal axis and a
4 chamber to hold a cartridge;

5 a firing pin disposed in the housing and longitudinally movable in a forward and
6 rearward direction, at least a portion of the firing pin protruding outwards from the rear
7 of the housing in one position;

8 a movable hammer pivotally mounted in the frame and positioned to physically
9 contact the protruding firing pin to discharge the pistol;

10 a rotary selector switch operably engaged with the firing pin and movable
11 between at least first and second positions, the switch when moved from the first
12 position to second position simultaneously retracting the firing pin within the housing
13 so that the hammer cannot contact the firing pin and discharge the pistol; and

14 a movable locking member that in at least one position engages and holds the
15 switch in the second position so that the hammer cannot contact the firing pin.

1 27. The pistol of claim 16, wherein the locking member is a lock pin
2 rotatably mounted to the selector switch and configured to receive a cooperatively configured
3 key used to turn the locking member.

1 28. A method of blocking discharge of a pistol having a firing pin, the
2 method comprising:

3 engaging a movable firing pin;
4 holding the firing pin in a rearward position to prevent the firing pin from being
5 moved forwards towards contact with a cartridge loaded in a chamber of the pistol; and
6 locking manually the firing pin in the rearward position to prevent discharging
7 the pistol.

1 29. The method of claim 28, wherein the step of engaging the firing pin is
2 preceded by a step that comprises sliding vertically a blocking member into engagement with a
3 top surface of the firing pin.

1 30. The method of claim 29, wherein the step of locking manually the firing
2 pin is preceded by a step that comprises rotating a stopping member into engagement with the
3 blocking member to prevent vertical movement of the blocking member.